

Cuyahoga Valley National Park Mailing Address: 15610 Vaughn Road Brecksville OH 44141 Visitor Center: 1550 Boston Mills Road Peninsula, OH 44264 www.nps.gov/cuva

Cuyahoga Valley National Park News Release

For Immediate Release – Monday, April 15, 2013 Mary Pat Doorley, CVNP, 440-546-5995, 440-343-7355 (cell), or mary_pat_doorley@nps.gov

Celebrate National Junior Ranger Day at Your National Park

Brecksville, Ohio - On Saturday, April 20, 2013 celebrate National Junior Ranger Day at Cuyahoga Valley National Park (CVNP) with a day full of FREE programs and special events. The National Park Service (NPS) sponsors the Junior Ranger program to help children explore and discover their national parks. Through park-specific activities, children learn about the special places preserved by NPS and in turn become "Junior Rangers" to help protect these areas for the future.

Child-friendly activities and games will be on going from noon to 2:30 p.m. at Ledges Shelter in Peninsula. Enjoy cake and ice cream, visit station activities, and have fun with other Junior Rangers! Participants can earn a Junior Ranger badge by attending any of the day's programs and activities and/or completing the *Junior Ranger Handbook* activities or Junior Ranger, Jr. activity cards. Junior Rangers that have badges from other parks are encouraged to wear them. We will award prizes for the most badges and patches, the youngest and oldest Junior Rangers, and more! A Junior Ranger swearing in ceremony begins at 1 p.m.

Ledges Shelter is located at Truxell/ Kendall Park Road, 1 mile west of Akron Cleveland Road, Peninsula 44264.

In addition to the activities and swearing-in ceremony at Happy Days Lodge, there are two other free Junior Ranger programs on Saturday, April 20:

Bring on the Bugs

Explore an upland forest with Park Ranger Mike Kosmos in search of bugs that call this community home. Free. For ages 7 - 12. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Junior Ranger, Jr.: Amazing Air

What is all around us, but something we can't see? We'll investigate things that fly and the amazing properties of air through hands-on exploration, play, and art. Free. For ages 4 - 6. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Space is limited and registration is necessary for these two events. A parent or guardian is required to attend programs with participating children. To register, call 800- 642-3297 ext. 100. Locations provided when registering.

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Other Free Junior Ranger Spring Family Programs:

Saturday, May 11

Dirt Rocks

What's all the fuss about dirt? Come make mud pies and search for the creatures that call the forest floor home. Get your hands dirty as we uncover the truth about soil. For ages 4 - 6. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Saturday, May 18

Rambling Along the River

Become a water quality scientist on RiverDay. Take a walk along the Towpath Trail, put on goggles and gloves, and test the Cuyahoga's water. For ages 7 - 12. 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Program locations are given upon registration. A parent or guardian is required to attend programs with participating children. To register call 330-657-2796 ext. 100.

CVNP encompasses 33,000 acres along the Cuyahoga River between Cleveland and Akron, Ohio. Managed by the National Park Service, CVNP combines cultural, historical, recreational, and natural activities in one setting. For more information visit www.nps.gov/cuva or call 330-657-2752.

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